

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

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PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 DRC-01 IO-14 NIC-01

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O R 261842Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9468

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT PO

SUBJ: PRESS CONFERENCE BY GENERAL SPINOLA AND POLICY PROGRAM OF
NEW GOVERNMENT

1. EARLY APRIL 26 GENERAL SPINOLA HELD FIRST NEWS CONFERENCE OF JUNTA OF NATIONAL SALVATION IN LISBON ENGINEER'S HEADQUARTERS, WHICH NOW JUNTA'S COMMAND POST. REPRESENTATIVES OF PORTUGUESE AND INTERNATIONAL PRESS IN ATTENDANCE. AFTER SHORT STATEMENT OF THANKS TO PRESS FOR SUPPORT RENDERED MOVEMENT,
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SPINOLA ANSWERED QUESTIONS. LATER JUNTA REPRESENTA-

TIVE READ STATEMENT OUTLINING DETAILS OF JUNTA
PROGRAM.

2. AFTER SAYING DGS WOULD IN FUTURE ACT IN MANNER
NOT BRINGING FURTHER PUBLIC CENSURE, SPINOLA SAID
OVERSEAS POLICY WILL DEPEND ON "CONSENSUS OF COUNTRY".
SAID THOMAZ AND CAETANO HAD ALREADY DEPARTED BY AIR
FOR MADEIRA. REGARDING FOREIGN POLICY, HE SAID IT
WILL BE OPEN TO "EVOLUTIONARY SOLUTIONS" FOR THE
PROGRESS OF A PLURICONTINENTAL PORTUGAL. RELATIONS
WITH SPAIN WILL BE IMPROVED, HE PREDICTED, BY NEW
ORIENTATION OF REGIME. SAID PRESS FREEDOM COVERED
IN FOLLOWING PRESS STATEMENT.

3. SPINOLA CALLED PORTUGUESE CITIZENS "MAGNIFICENT"
FOR THEIR REACTIONS TO THE MOVEMENT, AND SAID HE KNEW
OF NO VICTIMS, NOTING THAT SHOTS FIRED DURING REVOLT
WERE SPORADIC AND NOT SUSTAINED.

4. ASKED WHETHER THE SOCIALIST PARTY OR THE CDE WILL
BE LEGALIZED, SPINOLA REPLIED THAT IT APPEARED THEY
WOULD BE. SAID DGS (POLITICAL POLICE) WOULD BE ABOLISHED
IN METROPOLE, BUT SUGGESTED THAT DGS FORCES ENGAGED
MILITARILY OVERSEAS WOULD CONTINUE TO
FUNCTION.

5. SPINOLA NOTED THAT THE MOVEMENT IS COLLECTIVE EFFORT OF ARMED
FORCES, WITH NO SINGLE LEADER. THE MOVEMENT, HE REMARKED,
IS NOT NOW CONSIDERING MAKING CONTACT WITH LEADERS OF
GUERILLA MOVEMENTS. SAID JUNTA WILL RELEASE ALL
POLITICAL PRISONERS EXCEPT THOSE WHICH HAVE ALSO
COMMITTED ORDINARY CRIMES.

6. AFTER PRESS CONFERENCE DETAILED PROGRAM OF FIEA
WAS READ AND GIVEN JOURNALISTS. PROGRAM DIVIDED INTO
IMMEDIATE MEASURES, SHORT TERM MEASURES, AND FINAL
GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS. JUNTA WILL HOLD POWER FOR A
SHORT TIME UNTIL PROVISIONAL CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT IS
FORMED. PRESIDENT AND VICE PRESIDENT OF PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT
WILL BE CHOSEN BY MEMBERS OF JUNTA.
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7. JUNTA WILL DECREEE THAT PREVIOUS PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC, CABINET
MINISTERS, NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND COUNCIL OF STATE DIS-
CHARGED. WITHIN 12 MONTHS CONSTITUENT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
WILL BE ELECTED BY DIRECT UNIVERSAL SUFFRAGE AND SECRET
VOTE, ACCORDING TO ELECTORAL LAW TO BE ELABORATED
BY PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT.

8. ALL CIVIL GOVERNORS IN METROPOLE, ADJACENT ISLAND AND GOVERNORS-GENERAL OF OVERSEAS PROVINCES ARE DISCHARGED, AND ANP (ACCAO NACIONAL POLULAR) ABOLISHED. OVERSEAS GOVERNORS GENERAL ARE REPLACED FOR INTERIM PERIOD BY RESPECTIVE SECRETARIES GENERAL.

9. DGS, PORTUGUESE LEGION AND POLITICAL YOUTH MOVEMENTS (PRESUMABLY MOCIDADE PORTUGUESA) ABOLISHED. DGS OVERSEAS TO BE REORGANIZED AS POLICE FORCE TO PROVIDE OPERATIONAL MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

10. INDIVIDUALS ACCUSED OF CRIMES AGAINST "POLITICAL ORDER" WILL, FOR JUNTA'S LIFE, BE TRIED BY MILITARY COURTS. RIGOROUS CONTROL OF ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL OPERATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES WILL BE INSTITUTED. ALL POLITICAL PRISONERS ARE IMMEDIATELY AMNESTIED (EXCEPT THOSE WHO ARE ALSO COMMON LAW CRIMINALS) AND PUBLIC SERVANTS PREVIOUSLY DISMISSED FOR POLITICAL MOTIVES WILL BE GIVEN BACK JOBS.

11. CENSORSHIP ABOLISHED, BUT TEMPORARY AD HOC COMMITTEE WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO REGULATE PRESS, RADIO, TV, THEATER AND CINEMA, TO SAFEGUARD MILITARY SECRETS AND AVOID PROVOCATION BY "REACTIONARIES". COMMITTEE, WHICH WILL REPORT DIRECTLY TO JUNTA, WILL ACT UNTIL PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT ENACTS NEW PRESS LAWS.

12. VARIOUS NEAR-TERM MEASURES ARE ENVISAGED FOR PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT. WITHIN THREE WEEKS, JUNTA WILL CHOOSE FROM AMONG ITS MEMBERS PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT OF REPUBLIC WHO WILL HAVE FUNCTIONS SIMILAR TO THOSE OF PRESIDENT IN PRESENT CONSTITUTION. REMAINING MEMBERS OF JUNTA WILL TAKE POSITIONS OF CHIEFS OF STAFFS OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THREE SERVICES, AND CHIEF AND VICE CHIEF OF STAFF OF ARMED FORCES. ALL WILL FORM PART OF (NEW) COUNCIL OF STATE.

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13. ONCE THE PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT IS SELECTED, HE WILL NAME PROVISIONAL CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT COMPOSED OF PERSONS REPRESENTATIVE OF POLITICAL GROUPS AND CURRENTS, AS WELL AS INDEPENDENTS WHO AGREE WITH JUNTA PROGRAM. AFTER SELECTION PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT, JUNTA WILL CONTINUE IN ORDER TO SAFEGUARD ITS AVOWED GOALS. WHEN NEW CONSTITUTION WRITTEN, PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WILL BE REPLACED BY ELECTED PRESIDENT AND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

14. PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WILL RULE BY DECREE LAWS, BUT MAJOR REFORMS WILL BE TAKEN UP BY FUTURE CONSTITUENT
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ASSEMBLY. PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WILL PROMULGATE MEASURES TO GUARANTEE FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION. POLITICAL ASSOCIATIONS, NUCLEI OF FUTURE POLITICAL PARTIES, WILL BE PERMITTED, AND LABOR UNION ACTIVITY, IN ACCORD SPECIAL LAWS TO BE ESTABLISHED, WILL BE ALLOWED.

15. PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT WILL FOSTER FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND THOUGHT, REGARDLESS OF FORM, AND WILL PASS NEW PRESS LAW. IT WILL ALSO PASS MEASURES ASSURING INDEPENDENCE OF JUDICIARY. SPECIAL COURTS WILL BE ABOLISHED, AND CRIMES AGAINST STATE SECURITY WILL HENCEFORTH BE TRIED IN ORDINARY COURTS BY REGULAR JUDGES. JUDICIAL POLICE, NOT DGS, WILL PREPARE INDICTMENTS.

16. NEW ECONOMIC POLICIES WILL BE ESTABLISHED, EMPHASIZING MEASURES TO HELP LOWER INCOME GROUPS, AND WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION TO FIGHT AGAINST INFLATION AND HIGH COST OF LIVING. THIS POLICY "NECESSARILY WILL CALL FOR AN ANTI-MONOPOLIST STRATEGY". NEW SOCIAL POLICY ON BEHALF OF WORKER INTERESTS AND QUALITY LIFE FOR ALL PORTUGUESE WILL BE INSTITUTED.

17. FOREIGN POLICY WILL BE BASED ON RESPECT FOR PRINCIPLES OF INDEPENDENCE AND EQUALITY AMONG STATES, NON-INTERFERENCE IN OTHERS' INTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND DEFENSE OF PEACE. PORTUGUESE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS WILL BE EXPANDED AND DIVERSIFIED, AND BASED ON FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION. GOVERNMENT WILL RESPECT INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS DEVOLVING FROM EXISTING TREATIES.

18. OVERSEAS POLICY, WHOSE FUNDMENTALS WILL BE UP TO NATION TO DEFINE, WILL BE BASED ON FOLLOWING PRINCIPLES:
A) RECOGNITION THAT SOLUTION TO OVERSEAS WAR IS POLITICAL AND NOT MILITARY; B) NEED CREATE CONDITIONS FOR FRANK AND OPEN DEBATE OF OVERSEAS PROBLEM AT NATIONAL LEVEL;
C) NEED PROMULGATE BASIS OF OVERSEAS POLICY WHICH WILL LEAD TO PEACE.

19. DOCUMENT ENDS WITH STATEMENT THAT JUNTA WILL DISBAND WITH ELECTION OF NATIONAL CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY AND PRESIDENT, AND EXHORTATION FOR ALL PORTUGUESE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PARTICIPATE SINCERELY, LUCIDLY AND DECIDELY IN NATIONAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS. PEOPLE ASKED TO HELP BRING ABOUT AND SUPPORT BY EXAMPLE OF THEIR WORK AND TOLERANCE, CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR DELINEATION IN SHORT TIME OF POLICIES WHICH WILL RESOLVE PRESSING NATIONAL PROBLEMS.

20. COMMENT: THIS IS A TALL ORDER INDEED, AND IF CARRIED OUT WILL CLEARLY BRING PORTUGAL INTO THE MAIN STREAM OF EUROPE AND THE WEST FOR THE FIRST TIME IN THIS CENTURY. WHILE FIRM, PROGRAM IS LIBERAL AND BY NO MEANS EXTREMIST. WE FIND SEVERAL ITEMS OF PARTICULAR NOTE: A) JUNTA'S LIFE IS CLEARLY RESTRICTED TO ONE YEAR AT MAXIMUM; B) WHILE PROVISIONAL PRESIDENT AND VICE

PRESIDENT WILL BE MILITARY, PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT'S
CABINET MINISTERS WILL PRESUMABLY BE CIVILIAN; C) NEW
REGIME PROMISES CHANGES IN OVERSEAS POLICY, YET
SPINOLA SPOKE OF PORTUGAL AS "PLURICONTINENTAL";
D) POSITION OF PRIME MINISTER IS NOT MENTIONED; AND
E) MENTION OF EXPANDED AND DIVERSIFIED FOREIGN RELATIONS
MAY IMPLY RELATIONS WITH EASTERN EUROPE, WITH WHICH
PORTUGAL HAS GROWING TRADE TIES, OR PRC, WITH WHICH
PORTUGAL HAS BUSINESS OVER MACAU.

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